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# GROWING A FOREST

The Natural Resources and Environment Ministry and the Forestry Department are turning a dumpsite in Mont Kiara into a park

>S2/3



## Turning dumpsite into a park

**Aidi Amin**

**KUALA LUMPUR:** The Natural Resources and Environment Ministry (NRE) organised a gotong-royong recently to convert a 1.6ha dumpsite into a public park at the Public Service Golf Club (KGPA) in Mont Kiara here.

The ministry's principal assistant secretary Dr Hizamri Yasin said the forestry department which is in charge of the

project will set up a "forest island" in the park.

"The layering technique which involves planting of various sizes of plants and trees will be used to create the 'forest island'," said Hizamri.

The forest island will be open to the public free of charge next month.

About 70 forestry department employees are involved

in the "greening project" which is estimated to cost RM800,000.

"The project is also in line with the ministry's 'one citizen, one tree' motto where it aims to plant 26 million trees by 2014. It is important for government agencies to work together to achieve this target."

Fifty staff from the Forest Research Institute (FRIM) also joined in to plant about 50 different species of trees such as Merawan Siput Jantan, Meranti, Jelutong and Karas.

The afforestation project will expose the public to the richly-diverse plants and trees available within the city.



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Different species of trees being planted to create the 'forest island'.



The greening effort is part of the Natural Resources and Environment Ministry's aim to plant 26 million trees by 2014.